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SOURCE [redacted]

March 16, 1948

1. "At [redacted] dinner party the other night I met [redacted] gave a very alarming account of the growth of communism in Egypt and rather surprised me by saying that it was the French communists who were conducting the campaign here rather than the Russians. According to the General, Lebanon was the country to watch, for it was the one most affected and might very well have a communist government some day. Lebanese communists under French leadership were the best organized throughout the Middle East in their bid for freedom of [illegible]

2. "Egypt has no law against communist activities which made it difficult to make arrests. A law will probably be enacted soon which will make it a criminal offense to be a member of a party which advocates the overthrow of constitutional government by any means. [redacted] The army is honeycombed with communist cells, as is industry and even low-salaried government employees.

3. "The point [redacted] emphasized was how desperately the Arab states were fighting communism, but it was too early to say whether it was a losing game or not. There was an evil which should be the rallying point for all democracies of the world. Egypt's fight and that of every Arab state was as important to the world as America's fight to save Europe, Greece and Turkey, but what help is America giving to the Middle East? On the contrary, America had sided with Russia to partition an Arab state and through this policy was antagonizing a partner in the fight against the most dangerous outlook the world has ever faced. Partition [redacted] must never succeed for it would be the greatest defeat imaginable to true democracy, because no assurance could be given that Jewish communist elements, strongly entrenched in Palestine today, would not suddenly gain control.

4. "The Moslem religion, [redacted] was a strong bulwark against communist doctrines, but unless the Arab states were given encouragement through an understanding and friendly assistance by the US, the present fight might be a losing one.

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